

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2947

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5061

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA KS KN JO

SUBJ: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA: JORDAN

REF: AMMAN'S 6582

1. ON OCTOBER 15 MAMBASSADOR SHERER OF USUN CALLED ON JORDANIAN PERMREP, AMBASSADOR SHARAF, TO DISCUSS KOREA, TO HIGHLIGHT THE PRIME IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE TO THE US, AND TO EXPRESS OUR STRONG HOPE THAT FRIENDLY COUNTRIES SUCH AS JORDAN WOULD BE SUPPORTING US.

2. EARLY IN THE CONVERSATION SHERER REFERRED TO TALK BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER RIFAI AND OUR AMBASSADOR IN AMMAN, MENTIONING THAT RIFAI HAD SAID JORDAN WOULD SUPPORT THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. SHARAF ACTED SOMEWHAT SURPRISED, INDICATING THAT QUESTION WAS STILL OPEN AND THAT HE DID NOT YET HAVE INSTRUCTIONS. SHARAF ADDED THAT GIVEN THE NUMBER OF ARAB COSPONSORS FOR THE OTHER RESOLUTION, JORDAN FOUND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO BE PRACTICALLY THE ONLY ARAB DELEGATION VOTING FOR THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. SHERER NOTED THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD PROVIDED US WITH HIGH-LEVEL ASSURANCES OF ITS SUPPORT FOR THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION.

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3. SHARAF NOTED SHIFT IN UN OPINION AWAY FROM THE IDEA OF A UN COMMAND AND ASKED ABOUT THE PROBLEM CONCERNING THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. SHERER REPLIED THAT OUR RESOLUTION ADDRESSED THESE POINTS. WE WERE PREPARED TO DISSOLVE THE UN COMMAND SUBJECT TO FURTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR MAINTAINING THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION PROVIDED FOR NO ARRANGEMENTS WHATSOEVER TO CONTINUE THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, CALLED FOR ITS REPLACEMENT BY A PEACE TREATY WHICH WOULD TAKE YEARS TO NEGOTIATE, AND EXCLUDED SOUTH KOREA FROM THE PROCESS. IF THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION WERE FOLLOWED, THIS WOULD DESTABILIZE THE SITUATION IN A REGION ALREADY CHARACTERIZED BY THE PRESENCE OF LARGE, OPPOSING MILITARY FORCES, AND WOULD RESULT IN A DANGEROUS VOID DUE TO THE LACK OF ARRANGEMENTS TO CARRY ON THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT.

4. REITERATING IMPORTANCE OF THE KOREA QUESTION TO THE US, SHERER SAID WE ALSO HOPED FOR JORDAN'S SUPPORT ON THE VOTING PRIORITY QUESTION AND THROUGH A NO VOTE ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION.

5. COMMENT: UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, SHERER DID NOT DISCUSS WITH SHARAF THE POSSIBILITY OF OPPOSING PORTIONS OF THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION IN A PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH VOTE. WE BELIEVE FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD BE ACCORDED TO HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH TO GOJ, IN ORDER THAT PRIME MINISTER RIFAI'S POSITIVE SUPPORT FOR THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION IS REFLECTED IN NEW YORK.
MOYNIHAN

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